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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MEDIVIR AB** [SE/SE]; Lunastigen 7, S-141 44 Huddinge (SE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **NILSSON, Magnus** [SE/SE]; Medivir AB, Lunastigen 7, S-141 44 Huddinge (SE). **ZHOU, Xiao-Xiong** [SE/SE]; Medivir AB, Lunastigen 7, S-141 44 Huddinge (SE). **ODEN, Lourdes** [PH/SE]; Medivir AB, Lunastigen 7, S-141 44 Huddinge (SE). **CLASSON, Bjorn** [SE/SE]; Medivir AB, Lunastigen 7, S-141 44 Huddinge (SE). **NOREN, Rolf** [SE/SE]; Medivir AB, Lunastigen 7, S-141 44 Huddinge (SE). **GRABOWSKA, Urszula** [GB/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **JACKSON, Philip** [GB/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **FALLON, Philip** [GB/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **CARR, Andrew** [GB/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **LILEY, Mark** [GB/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park,

Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **TOZER, Matt** [GB/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **JOHNSON, Tony** [GB/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **DIAZ, Victor** [ES/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **CRESPO, Laia** [ES/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CM10 1XL (GB). **KANGASMETSA, Jussi** [SE/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CB11 1XL (GB). **BONNAUD, Thierry** [FR/GB]; Medivir UK Ltd, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Essex CB11 1XL (GB).

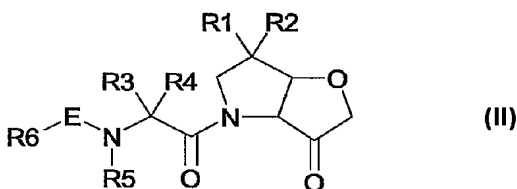
(74) Agents: **TEUTEN, Andrew, J.** et al.; Sagittarius Intellectual Property Consultants Ltd, Taylor House, 39 High Street, Marlow, Bucks SL7 1AF (GB).

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(54) Title: CYSTEINE PROTEASE INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: A compound of the formula (II) wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is halo and the other is H or halo; R^3 is C_1 - C_4 straight or branched chain, optionally fluorinated, alkyl; R^4 is H; or R^3 together with R^4 and the adjoining backbone carbon defines: a spiro- C_5 - C_7 cycloalkyl, optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from halo, hydroxyl, C_1 - C_4 alkyl or C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl; or optionally bridged with a methylene group; or a C_4 - C_6 saturated heterocycle having a hetero atom selected from O, NRa, S, S(=O)₂; where Ra is H, C_1 - C_4 alkyl or $CH_3C(=O)$; R^5 is independently selected from H or methyl; E is -C(=O)-, -S(=O)_m-, -NR⁵S(=O)_m-, -NR⁵C(=O)-, -OC(=O)-, R⁶ is a stable, optionally substituted, monocyclic or bicyclic, carbocycle or heterocycle; m is independently 0, 1 or 2; are inhibitors of cathepsin K and useful in the treatment or prophylaxis of osteoporosis.



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